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SOME TINGIDAE FROM THE FRENCH CAMEROONS (HEMIPTERA)

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This paper is an account of the lacebugs, family Tingidae, netted during an expedition to study the ecology and fauna of the pluvial forests of the French Cameroons, Africa, winter of 1949-1950, by the Universitetets Zoologiske Muesum, Köbenhavn. The research investigations and insect collections were made by Dr. Jörgen Burket-Smith (in charge of expedition) and J. Dahl of the above university.

The Tingids, represented by 20 specimens, sort out to two genera and three species. These figures include the species described below as new to science. The specimens, including the type, have been returned to the above museum.

The Tingidae were collected in the pluvial forests and small native "clearings" south of Makak, a small station on the railway between Douala and Yaoundé, about 270 kilometers south of the former city. Field stations were established at "Campement Despierres" (four kilometers south of Makak) and at "Case du Nyong" (12 kilometers south of the first camp) on the southern bank of the river Nyong. At the latter station, a field laboratory was constructed for conducting the ecological studies and making the insect collections. The climate in the region of the stations is that of the calm-belt, a wet tropical one of four seasons.

Phyllontocheila alberti tricarinata Schouteden.

Phyllontocheila alberti tricarinata Schouteden, Rev. Zool. Bot. Afr. 43(3-4):170.

Phyllontocheila alberti tricarinata Drake and Gomez-Menor, EOS, Rev. Esp. Ent. 30(1-2):93.(*New synonymy*)

As the subspecies *P. alberti carinata* Schouteden has priority by a couple of months over the subspecies described by the same name by Drake and Gomez-Menor, the latter is here treated as a synonymy. The description of the subspecies *tricarinata* also makes it necessary to suppress the subgenus *Kotoko* Schouteden as a synonym of the genus *Phyllontocheila* Fieber. (*New synonymy*)

Fifteen specimens (8 adults and 7 nymphs), both field stations south of Makak, feeding and breeding on the leaves of a small tree, *Veronia* sp. Other specimens have been seen from Spanish Guinea and Belgian Congo. Schouteden also reported *Veronia* as its food plant in the Belgian Congo. The typical form has the pronotum unicarinate instead of tricarinate.

Phyllontocheila dilatata (Guérin-Méneville).

Tingis dilatata Guérin-Méneville, Mag. Zool. 1(2):8. tab. 8, 1831.
Tingis dilatata Lethierry et Severin, Cát. gén. Hem. Het. 3:226. 1896.
Phyllontochila dilatata Distant, Ann. So. Afr. Mus. 2:241. 1902.
Phyllontocheila dilatata Horvath, Ann. Mus. Nat. Hung. 9:328 & 331. 1911.
Phyllontochila dilatata Horvath, Kilimandjaro-Meru, 2(12):63.

Four specimens, Case du Nyong, netted in the dense underwood of the forest, along paths and in plantations. Recorded in the literature from Nigeria, Senegal, Rhodesia, Serra Leone, Belgian Congo and French West Africa.

Tingis nyogana, n. sp.

Large, rather broad, ovate, testaceous with pronotum largely reddish fuscous and elytra variegated with fuscous and blackfish. Length, 4.50 mm; width, 2.60 mm.

Head broad, very short, black, armed above with five, stout, blunt spines; anterior pair and median erect, beadlike, fuscous; hind pair appressed, testaceous, short; eyes large, reddish fuscous. Bucculae broad, closed in front, mostly triseriate, quadriseriate behind. Rostrum brownish testaceous, extending to base of mesonotum; laminate moderately elevated, rather thick, fuscous, divergent anteriorly, apex destroyed by pin. Antennae moderately stout; segment I very stout, very short; II slenderer, nearly the same length as I; III brownish, straight, clothed with extremely short, golden pubescence; IV, short, black, feebly enlarged apically, clothed with pale pubescence; measurements—I, 14; II, 12; III, 90; IV, 28. Orifice with sides of channel strongly elevated, directed upward with apex nearly in contact with hypocostal laminae. Legs moderately long, moderately stout, reddish fuscous, clothed with very short, inconspicuous pubescence.

Pronotum quite broad, strongly and broadly convex across humeral angles, very coarsely punctate, moderately roundly narrowed anteriorly, tricarinate; carinae elevated, largely testaceous, composed of one row of fairly distinct areolae; lateral carina united with apex of prostrate hood, reaching to apex of hind pronotal process; lateral carinae terminating anteriorly near base of calli, more widely separated in front of disc, there convex within; hood rather small, pyriform, inflated, feebly produced in front, wider than high, longer than wide; calli large, impunctate, black; paranota long, rather narrow, slightly reflexed, with outer margin slowly rounded, brownish testaceous, uniseriate opposite humeri, wider and biseriate in front; hind process large, testaceous, areolate.

Elytra broad, obovate, brownish testaceous, somewhat variegated with fuscous or blackish markings, jointly broadly rounded behind in repose, widest across apex of hind pronotal process; costal area wide, with a fairly large quadrate black band in front of middle, also with a few scattered small spots and apex black, irregularly tri- quadriseriate; subcostal area subequal to costal in width, quadriseriate in front, triseriate behind, with outer boundary sinuate, acutely angulate at base and apex, extending beyond middle of elytra, widest opposite apex of hind pronotal process; there seven or eight areolae deep; sutural area large, with veinlets largely black, the areolae larger apically. Areolae of elytra rather small and not arranged in very regular rows. Abdomen beneath dark reddish fuscous.

Type (female), Case du Nyong, along a path in the cultivated clearings and plantations, Zool. Mus. of Univ. Köbenhavn.

This species may be distinguished from other members of the genus *Tingis* Linneaus (subgenus *Tingis*) by the hood and paranota. The genus *Tingis* and subgenera need further study as a number of species so classified are atypical.